approximately Rs. 28.56 crores the extent of damaged grain was found to be in excess of the contractual specifications.

(c) The State Trading Corporation of India has been asked to take up the matter with the suppliers in terms of the contract. A compensation to the extent of US $ 2.98 PMT for excess damaged grain contents has been obtained by STC from the foreign suppliers.

Procurement and stocks of Wheat

1278. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the figures of procurement and stocks of wheat during the past five years;

(b) whether during the current year there has been a shortfall in the procurement of wheat;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the stocks of wheat held by Government presently are adequate to serve the Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Statements showing the procurement and stocks of wheat during the last five years are given at Statement I & II respectively (*see* below)

(b) and (c) A quantity of 92.63 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procured during the current Rabi Marketing Season (1997-98) upto 21.7.97 as against 81.83 lakh tonnes of wheat procured during the corresponding period of the previous season.

(d) Yes Sir.

Statement-I

Procurement of Wheat since 1993-94 Marketing Season (April-March)

(In Thousand Tonnes)

STATE/UT	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (21.7.97)
Bihar	—	Neg.	Neg.	—	—
Gujarat	Neg.	—	1	—	—
Haryana	3454	3047	3102	2060	2263
Himachal Pradesh	1	Neg.	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	242	66	169	5	103
Punjab	6494	7285	7299	5628	5955
Rajasthan	496	65	454	229	320
Uttar Pradesh	2128	1406	1302	261	620
Chandigarh	Neg.	—	—	—	2
Delhi	20	—	Neg.	—	Neg.
All India Total:	12835	11869	12327	8183	9263

Neg. : Below 500 tonnes.

Statement-II

Stock of Wheat during the past five years

(In Million Tonnes)

As on	Buffer Normes	Stock of Wheat				
		1997(P)	1996(P)	1995(P)	1994(P)	1993(P)
1st Jan.	7.7	7.08	13.15	12.88	10.82	3.28
1st April	3.7	3.24(£)	7.76	8.72	6.99	2.74
1st July	13.1		14.13	19.22	17.49	14.89
1st Oct.	10.6		10.54	16.94	15.58	13.66

(P) = Provisional

(£) = Actual Stock reported less hich is under reconciliation

Fair Price Shops indulged in Unfair Means in Delhi

1279. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of FPS owners in Delhi/New Delhi are indulging in unfair means particularly FPS No. 5479;

(b) if so, whether the FPS owners of shop No. 5479 has been diverting food items such as sugar and wheat in the open market and depriving the card holders to take their articles;

(c) whether Government propose to investigate the illegal acts of the said FPS owners;

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) further action Government propose to take?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that fiar price shops (FPSs) are regularly and periodically checked by the Inspector of the circle and Enforcement staff of the Department. Whenever complaints of malpractices against the FPS owners are received these are also examined and checking is conducted against them and action is taken as per law.

(b) to (e) Government of NCT of Delhi have also reported that no such complaint against the FPS No. 5479 has been received. An inspection of FPS No. 5479 was conducted by Enforcement staff on 29.7.1997. Some cash memos were also verified by door-to-door survey. The card holders have accepted that they had received the commodities against cash memos.

Allocation of Foodgrains under PDS slashed down in Karnataka

1280. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allocation of foodgrains under PDS in the State of Karnataka, has been slashed from 120,000 to 75,000 tonnes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any communication from Karnataka Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?